

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Gregg County Days are taking place at the State
2 Capitol on March 31 and April 1, 2009, and this occasion provides a
3 welcome opportunity to pay tribute to this notable Texas county;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Present in the chamber on this occasion are the
6 following Gregg County dignitaries: county judge Bill Stoudt,
7 Longview mayor Jay Dean, Longview city manager David Willard,
8 Longview Partnership president Kelly Hall, Gladewater mayor Walter
9 Derrick, former Gladewater mayor Jackie Wood, Gladewater city
10 councilman John Ussery, Gladewater city manager Jay Stokes,
11 Gladewater Economic Development Corporation executive director Lon
12 Welton, former White Oak mayor Tim Vaughn, Kilgore Economic
13 Development Corporation executive director Amanda Nobles, Suzanne
14 Cook, Laura McKethan, Alfred Lacy, Steven Best, Bennie Corutt,
15 Patty Bell, Keith Honey, Jim Kendrick, Darwin Winfield, Mike
16 Northcutt, Tony Cain, Gene Keenon, Melissa Harris, Laura Hill,
17 Sidney Allen, Shirley Hook, Sandra Holm, Jeremy DuMond, Ingrid
18 Johnson, Paul Anderson, Amy Tatum, Jack Miller, Vickie Echols,
19 Courtney Gill, Laura McCarter, Cathy Cace, Richard Lazurus, and
20 Richard Manley; and

21 WHEREAS, The lands that today make up Gregg County were once
22 inhabited by various Native American groups, including the Caddo
23 and the Cherokee; originally part of Upshur County, this area of the
24 Lone Star State was established as Gregg County on April 12, 1873,

1 and named for Confederate General John B. Gregg; the local
2 population grew quickly in the following decades, and by 1920,
3 nearly 17,000 people were living in the county; and

4 WHEREAS, For more than a half-century after the county was
5 established, its economy continued to be based on farming, but when
6 oil was struck in the western part of the county in the early 1930s,
7 people flooded into the area, and the communities of Kilgore and
8 Gladewater became boom towns in the span of a few days; the energy
9 reserves of the East Texas Oil Field helped power the American war
10 effort in World War II, and petroleum resources have continued to
11 play a key role in the county's fortunes; in addition, a diverse
12 range of other commercial endeavors have been established,
13 including manufacturing, tourism, and lignite mining, and major
14 companies such as Eastman, LeTourneau Technologies, SITEL, and
15 Trinity Industries employ numerous residents; and

16 WHEREAS, Longview, the county seat, is Gregg County's largest
17 city; it is home to LeTourneau University and boasts numerous
18 cultural attractions, including the Longview Museum of Fine Arts,
19 the Gregg County Historical Museum, and the R. G. LeTourneau
20 Museum; and

21 WHEREAS, Residents and visitors alike enjoy the county's
22 numerous special events; they include the Great Texas Balloon Race
23 in Longview, the annual Texas Shakespeare Festival in Kilgore, the
24 Roughneck Day Festival in White Oak, and East Texas Gusher Days in
25 Gladewater; and

26 WHEREAS, Throughout its history, Gregg County has been
27 blessed with abundant resources and innovative and industrious

1 citizens, and it has made significant contributions to the ongoing
2 prosperity of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas
4 hereby designate March 31 and April 1, 2009, as Gregg County Days at
5 the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation best wishes
6 for an enjoyable and informative stay in Austin.

Merritt

Straus	Gattis	Menendez
Allen	Geren	Merritt
Alonzo	Giddings	Miklos
Alvarado	Gonzales	Miller of Comal
Anchia	Gonzalez Toureilles	Miller of Erath
Anderson	Guillen	Moody
Aycock	Gutierrez	Morrison
Berman	Hamilton	Naishtat
Bohac	Hancock	Oliveira
Bolton	Hardcastle	Olivo
Bonnen	Harless	Orr
Branch	Harper-Brown	Ortiz, Jr.
Brown of Kaufman	Hartnett	Otto
Brown of Brazos	Heflin	Parker
Burnam	Hernandez	Patrick
Button	Herrero	Paxton
Callegari	Hilderbran	Peña
Castro	Hochberg	Phillips
Chavez	Hodge	Pickett
Chisum	Homer	Pierson
Christian	Hopson	Pitts
Cohen	Howard of Fort Bend	Quintanilla
Coleman	Howard of Travis	Raymond
Cook	Hughes	Riddle
Corte	Hunter	Rios Ybarra
Crabb	Isett	Ritter
Craddick	Jackson	Rodriguez
Creighton	Jones	Rose
Crownover	Keffer	Sheffield
Darby	Kent	Shelton
Davis of Harris	King of Parker	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	King of Taylor	Smith of Harris
Deshotel	King of Zavala	Smithee
Driver	Kleinschmidt	Solomons
Dukes	Kolkhorst	Strama
Dunnam	Kuempel	Swinford
Dutton	Laubenberg	Taylor
Edwards	Legler	Thibaut
Eiland	Leibowitz	Thompson
Eissler	Lewis	Truitt
Elkins	Lucio III	Turner of Tarrant
England	Madden	Turner of Harris
Farabee	Maldonado	Vaught
Farias	Mallory Caraway	Veasey
Farrar	Marquez	Villarreal
Fletcher	Martinez	Vo
Flores	Martinez Fischer	Walle
Flynn	McCall	Weber
Frost	McClendon	Woolley
Gallego	McReynolds	Zerwas

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 135 was adopted by the House on April 1, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 135 was adopted by the Senate on April 1, 2009, by a viva-voce vote.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor